

From: Dennis Sosnoski
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 9:20pm
Subject: Proposed Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ,

The proposed settlement with Microsoft is a remarkably bad deal for the consumers and businesses of America. It fails to address many of the current abusive practices, takes absolutely no action to prevent new types of abusive practices in the future, and is likely to be ineffective even for the practices the drafters of the settlement intended to cover.

Microsoft has never accepted that it has violated the laws, despite any number of court decisions against it. There is absolutely no reason to believe that this will change if the proposed settlement is accepted. It is far more likely that Microsoft will treat this as yet another meaningless piece of paper that placates the government, just as they did the last settlement.

The proposed settlement is far too full of loopholes and possible/plausible misinterpretations to serve any useful purpose with this type of hostile defendant. If anything, the settlement would give them a legal basis for further abusive practices in the future (such as withholding API information in the name of "security").

As someone who has worked inside the company I've witnessed the abusive practices firsthand. It will take far stronger measures than those currently proposed to correct these practices.

Sincerely,

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